

## Industry Blocks Reorganization of Wage Board

### Score: No Action

Washington.—With prices still rising and rent controls due to expire March 21, Congress took no action to amend the sieve-like Defense Production Act of 1950 to protect consumers.

Here's the scorecard on vital issues:

**TAXES**—Loose federal ceilings expire March 31. Soldiers' families are being gouged for shacks in uncontrolled areas around training camps. Congress goes home for Easter soon.

**PRICES**—Still going up. Office of Price Stabilization keeps "liberalizing" its previous "freeze" orders. Soon will find food industry opportunity to markup percentage margin of profit.

**TAKES**—Hearings being held on how to increase excise (sales) taxes on cost-of-living items. Administration proposals would dump most burden on low-income groups.

**WAGES**—Still frozen tight. No wage stabilization board operating. United Labor Policy Committee negotiates with Economic Stabilization Administration Eric Johnston on reorganization of board.

**MANPOWER**—Defense Mobilization Czar Chas. E. Wilson holds the power to ask for draft and regimentation of workers. Secretary of Labor Maurice I. Tobin appoints former Sen. Frank P. Graham as Defense Manpower Administrator in the department.

**REPRESENTATION IN DEFENSE PROGRAM**—None for labor.

The sum is: No action.

## Million-Member California Federation Hits Wilson Policies, State Split

By JOHN F. HENNING  
San Francisco Correspondent AFL News Service

San Francisco.—The voice of more than one million members of the American Federation of Labor in California ripped the present wage-price and rent controls and called for more power policies be removed from the office of Mobilization Boss Charles E. Wilson.

In vigorous support of the national AFL position, the California Executive Council declared that the federal wage ceilings impose "a cruel and staggering burden on American wage earners who are now facing the highest prices in history."

The council also condemned the exclusion of labor from participation in top level defense machinery, and called upon President Truman to reverse the current administration strategy of ignoring labor in mobilization matters.

Opposition was also voiced to the rumored division of California in regard to planning for regional wage-price-manpower control administration. The council held that "efficiency dictates that the state must remain a unit in all such planning."

In the sphere of labor education, the state federation launched its first annual scholarship contest in early February with an announcement mailed to all high school students in California advising that the state AFL is offering 3 scholarships of \$500 each to senior students planning to attend a 4-year college or university during the coming academic year.

All political eyes in California are fastened on Sacramento where the 1951 general session reconvened March 12. The state federation last month published its official summary of proposed legislation, a 156-page book reviewing the promises of more than 2,770 bills of interest to labor. This represents the highest number of measures pertinent to labor ever introduced in California legislative history.

The federation digest presents bills by subject and within the scope of the 49 topical divisions, the proposed measures are classified into "Good," "Bad" or "Watch" categories. The relevant subjects range from "Apprenticeship" to "Workers' Compensation."

The swelling AFL membership in California was officially declared to be over the one million mark in the February report of the California Council of Industrial Relations, Director Paul H. Kupperberg revealed in a survey by the Department's Division of Labor Statistics showed there are more than 1,500,000 members organized in California. Of this total, 75 percent is 1,015,000, are members of AFL unions.

The first of a series of important



**LABOR PRODUCES MILITARY GOODS**—Washington.—AFL members in U. S. Naval Gun Factory turn out the materials needed by nation's fighting men, piling up the world's best record on production even when big business defense mobilization officials discriminate against them and their fighting sons in Korea by failing to control living costs.

## Soldier Families Suffer Cruelly As Congress Stalls on Rent Curbs

Washington.—Soldiers' families are suffering cruelly by Congress' stalling on rent controls.

Present loose federal curbs are due to expire March 31. Meanwhile Congress is preparing a long Eastern recess, prior to the deadline.

Pfc. James F. Steele, stationed at the Marine Base at Quantico, Va., said that he and his wife are paying \$32.75 per month, no utilities included, for 2 furnished rooms in a rotten barge that wouldn't even make a half-decent place for a cow or mule.

His one of several reports received from all over the country about the rent gouge to which servicemen are subjected.

The present law was intended eventually to take the government out of the rent control business. It was passed before war in Korea broke.

Under Lt. Housing Expediter Tighe Woods has no authority to revive rent controls in communities around the big military establishments now being reactivated. It will take an act of Congress.

Congress could attach a rider to a resolution extending federal controls providing that Mr. Woods can act now in reactivating communities around the military and naval installations.

Rent controls will expire for every one of March 31, except those in cities where the local government has voted to continue them until June 30.

## Dubinsky Joins L.A. Dedication

Los Angeles.—AFL Vice President Dave Dubinsky, president International Ladies Garment Workers Union (IGLWU), participated in a dedication of the new IGLWU headquarters, first of its kind in the West. Mr. Dubinsky participated in a week-long series of events arranged by Hyman H. Lasker, Pacific Coast director of the union, and his staff.

The Los Angeles City Council County Board of Supervisors adopted resolutions commending the IGLWU's progress. California and Los Angeles leaders of the AFL participated in the ceremony.

Mr. Dubinsky praised the progress of the Los Angeles members and the union movement, particularly with the skillful manner in which they rid themselves of Communist control, with no disruption either to the union or industry.

## SCUTTLE HOUSING

Washington.—Ten state legislatures have passed or are considering legislation which scuttles bills low-rent public housing by requiring some kind of election before sites can be acquired or projects begun.

The National Housing Conference lists the states as Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Washington.

## More One-Man Wage Orders Issued On Retroactivity, New Plants

## Peron Uses Labor To Aid Dictatorship

Washington.—The strangling of Argentina's great independent newspaper La Prensa, consummated with the complicity of the government-controlled General Confederation of Labor (CGL), has furnished conclusive proof of the totalitarian fascist character of the Peron government.

The March issue of Inter-American Labor Bulletin, published by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions charged that the "fake union strike against La Prensa" merely carried out the Argentine dictator's "long-prepared plan of silencing the champion of what little remained of the Argentine free press."

The La Prensa "strike" followed Peron's ruthless breaking of a Jan. railroad strike in 2 months by the Inter-Union charged that the "fake union strike against La Prensa" merely carried out the Argentine dictator's "long-prepared plan of silencing the champion of what little remained of the Argentine free press."

Every known opponent of the Peron regime who was or had been in any way connected with the Argentine labor movement, particularly with COASL, the Argentine affiliate of the IGLWU, was arrested after the outbreak of the third railway strike. They are being held without bail.

## Refuses to Accede to a Board Handling Disputes Also

Washington.—Industry is blocking reorganization of the Wage Stabilization Board.

Spokesman for the National Association of Manufacturers, U. S. Chamber of Commerce and Committee for Economic Development have served an ultimatum on Economic Stabilization Administrator Eric Johnston that they will not accede to a board with authority to settle disputes.

The industry members wrecked the old board by teaming up with so-called public members to put the wages and salaries of workers in the tight straight-jacket ever known.

Labor members of the board resigned on Feb. 15 out of protest over the unfair, unjust and unfavorable orders adopted by the public and industry members in closed room deals without consultation with labor members.

The United Labor Policy Committee informed Mr. Johnston that its representatives would not return unless a genuine tripartite board were created with authority to settle disputes. Mr. Johnston has been forced by the realities of wage operation to adopt some of labor's recommendations and has issued unilateral orders to put them into effect.

The industry, refusing to acknowledge its errors, is now obstinately blocking a speedy resolution of the wage issue.

While industry blocks creation of a new wage board and the government keeps wages in a vise, big business, through its operatives heading the Defense Mobilization program, demands lush prices; rent controls are being allowed to expire; the public is being charged with the burden of taxation on the low-income groups.

The United Labor Policy Committee, prepared to present a detailed report of the chaos spreading under Defense Mobilization Czar Charles E. Wilson to meetings of state and city center committees in Washington March 20 and 21.

Washington.—The government's one-man wage stabilization order issued 4 more orders covering retroactivity and new plants.

The Wage Stabilization Administrator Eric Johnston issued orders which permit employers to grant the same cost-of-living increases to nonunion white collar workers as were granted to other groups which are production workers. He also authorized employers to apply the same pay raise to other groups which was approved for organized workers.

In new plants, a company may set rates based on those in an existing plant, with 10 percent increase. Comparable rates in a comparable industry in the most nearly comparable

These matters were covered in Regulations 19 and 10.

The question of retroactivity, which was ruled against in the War Labor Board of World War II as part of each individual decision, was settled by War Relocation Authority, executive director of the wrecked and discredited War Relocation Board.

Mr. Wirtz set up 4 strict limitations on retroactivity under the unfair, unjust and unwarranted Regulation 6 which forced the labor members of the Wage Stabilization Board to resign.

The board negotiated under that rule can be retroactive only to the start of negotiations, date of reopening the contract and arrears, and the date of the old contract, or the start of the new contract. The increase was decided upon in the case of unorganized workers.



# Every Housewife Knows Wilson's Failure, Green Says

**Gives Six Answers to the Mobilization Czar's Untruthful 'Damned If I Know What' Labor Wants of Defense Setup**

Washington.—The government has flattered utterly in the past against inflation.

The failure is obvious.

Every housewife knows it. Prices are still going up and up and up.

Thus AFL President William Green, speaking as co-chairman of the United Labor Policy Committee representing 15 million Americans, answered Defense Mobilization Czar Charles E. Wilson's untruthful "damned if I know what" labor wants.

Mr. Wilson made the remark upon returning to Washington from Key West, Fla., where he had issued an earlier untruthful statement that United Labor had demanded the power to determine the allocation of manpower to the armed forces.

Leaving President Truman's vacation headquarters at Key West, Mr. Wilson said also that he and the President are "conscious of the hue and cry."

"I think as a matter of fact that neither of us understands what all the excitement and the shouting all about," Mr. Wilson said. Mr. Truman made no comment but White House Secretary James H. Doolittle said the matter is being studied in daily conferences.

Mr. Green's radio speech was one of a series being made on all four networks and television by the United Labor Policy Committee's representatives from the Wage Stabilization Board and Defense Mobilization Office.

The AFL, CIO, Machinists and railroad brotherhoods making up the committee, have called the heads of state and city regional organizations to Washington March 20 and 21 to report directly on the situation and attempt to rouse grassroots awareness of the price-wage war.

Thousands of letters have already deluged Mr. Wilson from workers, consumers and their organizations protesting his failure to control inflation. The man and Congress are also hearing from the folks back home.

They should hear more from the AFL's Price Stabilization Director Michael V. Disalle granted a recent permission to mark up the actual dollars and cents increases to them of the 31 percent price rise in manufactured goods a few days earlier.

A price stabilization official in Los Angeles said that Mr. Disalle would shortly take the entire food price freeze and put them under the "legalized robbery" of the marketing profit margin mark-up.

The National Production Authority

—in Mr. Wilson's office also—expanded the list of items for sale with a deny steel, ranging from automobiles to desk knives, including hundreds of workers in those plants which don't have a can't get defense order. And there's been no word from Mr. Wilson that he has thought of that angle at all.

Let me emphasize that labor's aim is to make America stronger, not weaker. Our desire is to halt inflation, not to promote it. Our basic protest is that the American people are not getting an effective stabilization program. I regret to report that so far the government has failed utterly in the fight against inflation.

That failure is obvious. Every housewife knows it. Prices are still going up and up. The cost of living, even as measured by the conservative official index, keeps climbing higher and higher. The value of the dollar is shrinking rapidly every day. These are immediate and alarming symptoms of inflation. The plain people of this country are being hurt by it. Millions of Americans must depend upon wages for their living, and others dependent upon fixed incomes such as pensions, are being victimized. The government has repeatedly promised them that it will hold the line. It has not done so.

The price control law is due to expire June 30. It must be renewed and strengthened. As yet the administration has made no move to urge Congress to act promptly.

The margin-of-profit system provides price ladders instead of price ceiling. Everything is permitted to go up, but nothing is ordered to come down. Stores are allowed to set their own prices, based upon their own bookkeeping and their own profit margins. There will be no such thing as a dollar-and-cents price ceiling. No customer will be able to check whether the storekeeper is selling his goods at legal prices. Neither will the government be able to enforce its price controls, even if it were intended.

Enforcement is obviously impossible, even if it were intended.

Why are such atrocities being committed in the name of price control?

The answer is clear.

The nation's whole defense mobilization program, from top to bottom, is staffed by the representatives of big business.

They are chiefly concerned, not with protecting the public, but with satisfying business. Not a word of complaint has been uttered against the price order by the National Association of Manufacturers, the Chamber of Commerce or the various trade associations. Not a single critical statement has been voiced by such inveterate enemies of real price control as Senators Taft, Capehart, Byrd and Wherry. Their silence is an eloquent testimonial to the fact that the price order is a boon to big business only.

If any leaders of our government are really in doubt as to why American labor is disturbed about the conduct of the defense stabilization program, here is the first and most important answer—high prices.

UNCONTROLLED RENTS

The second answer is the lack of an effective rent control law. The one on the books now is not strong enough. It is due to expire soon. The government is not manifesting strong leadership in the effort to prevail upon Congress to adopt an effective new rent control law.

FROZEN WAGES AND INCOME

The third answer is wage income frozen by government order. Nothing else in the economy has been frozen. Furthermore wages were frozen not at this year's levels but at 10 percent above the level in effect on Jan. 15 last year. No provision has been made for the adjustment of hardships or inequities or the settlement of disputes. There is no flexibility in the order, except for a subsequent amendment sanctioning wage escalator clauses in contracts negotiated before Jan. 25. That covers fewer than 2 million industrial workers. What about the 58 million other wage earners who are not protected by escalators?

UNFAIR TAXES

The fourth answer is taxes. The plain people of this country are willing to pay their fair share of the cost of national defense through taxes. They are being asked to pay taxes just as high as the wartime peak. But the taxes on incomes are still far below that level. Even the excess profits tax passed by Congress is shot through with loopholes. The public is entitled to an equitable tax program; it is entitled to equality of sacrifice in the defense program, but it is not getting it.

MANPOWER REGIMENTATION

The fifth answer is civilian manpower. Regulation of civilian manpower should be left in the Department of Labor under the guidance of a labor-management advisory committee. That committee had been functioning in emergency measures until last year when it was taken over by the Office of Defense Mobilization. During the last war free Americans of labor proved beyond any doubt that it can out-produce conscripted labor. There is no justification now for dangerous experiments with labor conscription, yet that is exactly where the government is heading.

LACK OF REPRESENTATION

The final answer deals with representation on defense agencies. We need teamwork in America to meet the national emergency. Such teamwork must be built upon public confidence. Labor can have no confidence in defense agencies which are completely dominated by big business representatives who see only the big business point of view.

The representation hitherto accorded to labor was entirely inadequate and ineffectual. It constituted merely window dressing. Not a single decision made by the defense stabilization agencies has reflected the views of labor. Every decision bears the indelible stamp of big business.

Those are the reasons why labor is disturbed about the defense program. Those are the reasons why labor representatives have withdrawn from their windowsill in the present position in the present ineffectual position can understand these reasons and we believe that all reasonable Americans will be convinced that they add up to a serious situation.

We hope that our government will promptly respond to public demand and establish the defense mobilization program on a firm and democratic basis of equality of sacrifice for all Americans.

## Prices, Rents, Taxes Alarm U. S. Citizens, Green Says

Washington.—AFL President William Green said in a radio address over Columbia Broadcasting System that the American people are alarmed by the government's failures to control inflation.

Speaking for the United Labor Policy Committee representing 15 million workers, Mr. Green laid down the reasons for the American people's dissatisfaction with Defense Mobilization in these words:

Let me emphasize that labor's aim is to make America stronger, not weaker. Our desire is to halt inflation, not to promote it. Our basic protest is that the American people are not getting an effective stabilization program. I regret to report that so far the government has failed utterly in the fight against inflation.

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## Many Says All Nation Concerned, Not Just Organized Labor

Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany said "everybody in the nation is concerned about the failure of the defense mobilization program that will halt the rising cost of living."

The failure to control rents and prices, to propose an equitable tax program for the low-income worker, and deal effectively with small business and manpower problems "is not just an organized labor problem," he said on "Reporters Roundup" over Mutual Broadcasting System. "It's a problem affecting all the American people."

In reply to questions from top Washington newsmen, Mr. Meany made these other points:

The United Labor Policy Committee, which withdrew union representatives from the Wage Stabilization Board and Defense Mobilization set-up, said Mr. Wilson's statement was a "disgraceful attempt to use civilian manpower for defense industries."

Wilson arbitrarily took over control of civilian manpower from the Labor Department. "He not only shut out labor but he shut out management," Mr. Meany said.

The job really belongs to Mr. Wilson just because he is a big business man but to his thinking only of big business. The job really belongs to the people who will think about big business, labor, management and all the people.

"We get along better with Eric Johnston (economic stabilization administrator) because there is a difference in personality, approach and thinking."

United Labor withdrew from the wage stabilization board because the public members did not represent the public. They took their orders from Mr. Wilson and sold his line to the public. It was not a tripartite board, labor was not represented. The public members were only asked to vote on orders already drawn by public and industry.

United Labor will return to a tripartite board. "The public members of the old War Labor Board where industry and labor take an equal pledge to submit disputes without lockouts or strikes to the board of conciliation," Mr. Meany said.

Organized labor is ready to give a no-strike pledge any time the President of the United States feels the welfare of the nation demands it.

Labor has sent 100,000 letters and statements, beginning as long ago as the AFL Executive Committee in 1946, letters and by committees on the shortcomings of the Defense Production Act and administration of the mobilization program.

"My branch of organized labor is not in the Democratic Party, never has been; it is not in the Republican Party," Mr. Meany said.

"We are going to the people we represent on this issue."

## Mexican Reds Slip Into U. S. Medals

Washington.—The "back door" to the United States, the Mexican border, is open to agents of Communist infiltration, according to a series of articles appearing in the Los Angeles Daily News beginning February 19.

Of taxpayers' money spent in deporting Mexican Communists. He estimated the total cost of the program at nearly a half-million dollars for the removal of about 10,000 Mexicans from the United States.

Under the proposal made by the Farm Labor Union official, any person including a Communist, who goes to work, industry or agricultural enterprise in the United States or brings into the United States an alien, will be liable for a fine of \$2,000 and a prison term not exceeding 5 years for each illegal alien he might employ.

## Price Hike Hurts Soldiers Families

Washington.—Speaking for 1,000,000 railroad workers cooperating through the United Labor Policy Committee, President Thomas C. Carroll of the AFL Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen said the nation's wage and price freeze has put many families in financial straits.

"We have talked much about equality of sacrifice."

You and I know that we here at home can never equal the sacrifice being made by the man who is freezing in Korea, under fire from communist troops.

There is nothing—absolutely nothing—we can do here at home, under present conditions, which would ever match his sacrifice.

But when we say equality of sacrifice, we mean equality of sacrifice of us at home who are remaining in civilian clothes.

We cannot, in the fight against communism, develop a favored class here at home; a class which is not bound on high prices at the sacrifice of the many.

For number one target, then, is prices.

I mentioned the men who are fighting in Korea. Many of us have sons or relatives fighting those battles.

Almost all of us know someone over there now who has left here at home a healthy and childless man. They have been a reservist—called back to duty after already having been discharged. Perhaps five or six, of the best years of his life to active military service.

He leaves at home a young child. How are they living?

They are living, let me remind you

—and let me remind our lawmakers of this, too—that soldier's wife and her children are living on a fixed income.

It isn't large and it is shrinking every day as prices of food, clothing and medicine continue to go up.

That about that man over in Korea.

How does he feel when he opens a newspaper and reads the news of how our kids are having to go without the necessities of life for their children because he just can't afford to buy them?

What is our obligation to that man and his family?

He is giving more than you and I are giving on the home front.

Yet we call on his family to make additional sacrifices. . . .

And what hurts me is my heart is that I feel we CAN—that we CAN prevent these families from being hurt. And helped in a positive way.

That they can be helped by a determined price control administration which will cut back prices, rather than freeze them at their all-time high and then let them go a little above that.

Otherwise they do not seek control of mobilization.

Otherwise they ask only that the mobilization be run right.

That we set as our immediate goal the mobilization of the people, the spelling ruin for thousands of good, hardworking men and women.

## FUNDAMENTALS OF DEMOCRACY CONTRASTED WITH COMMUNISM

## DEMOCRACY

## Basic Creed

Dignity and worth of each human being is supreme; society exists to effect the greatest possible opportunity to reach his highest attainments.

## Human Rights

Because each individual is sacred, he has certain inalienable rights which Democracy guarantees by law.

Freedom of religion.

## Freedom of the Person

No arrest without warrant; no arbitrary seizure of persons or property or search of homes; trial by an impartial jury guaranteed.

## Other Freedoms

Freedom to seek truth and secure accurate information in schools, universities, elsewhere.

Free press and radio; free speech, freedom of assembly; freedom to form voluntary organizations.

## Representative Government

Free elections by secret ballot, several party candidates for each office, nominated in free party primary elections or conventions. Government by laws enacted by chosen representatives of people.

## Economic Freedom

Anyone is free to start and run a business; any worker is free to choose and change jobs. Workers may organize free unions, employers may form trade associations.

Right to own property. Anyone may own a home, farm or business, and choose where he will live.

Right of contract. Employers fix terms of business by contract; workers determine wages and work conditions by collective bargaining and contract with employers.

## Result

Democracy results in progress upward; high living standards, opportunity, advancement through personal initiative and responsibility.

A vigorous, law, resourceful people who will defend freedom with all they have and help others to attain it.

## COMMUNISM

Totalitarian state is supreme; each human being must serve the state as the state directs, regardless of his own welfare or judgment. Human beings are expendable.

## Human Rights

No one has guaranteed rights or freedoms. Everyone is subservient to 14 Politburo dictators and their agents.

Church dominated by state.

## Freedom of the Person

Arbitrary arrests; imprisonment without trial; secret police seize anyone, search any home; everyone watched by spies.

## Other Freedoms

State tells everyone what to believe; information available in schools and elsewhere is distorted to serve state purposes.

State controlled press and radio, persons grilling government imprisoned; assembly only with government permission. No organizations free of state control.

## Representative Government

One party "elections", single state of candidates chosen by communist party officials.

Government by decrees of dictators, without consent of people.

State controls and operates all business; no free enterprise. State dictates worker's job and freezes him in job. Free unions and trade associations are prohibited.

No one may own property. State owns all housing facilities, farms, businesses. State officials assign people to living quarters.

State officials dictate all prices, terms of business, wages, work conditions. No person or group is free to contract with other on such matters.

## Result

Communism levels people downward; poverty and contempt for human beings, advancement depends on favors from state and party officials.

A people seething with discontent, many ready to revolt, held in subjection by the secret police and Soviet army.

—LARRY LARSEN, EDITOR

## Big Publishers Cause Paper Scare

Albany, N. Y.—Newspaper publishers, not newspaper manufacturers, are responsible for the current shortage of newsprint.

President Paul L. Phillips of the AFL International Brotherhood of Paper Makers made the charge in the Paper Makers monthly magazine, published last month to President R. A. Olson of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor.

Mr. Olson had written for assistance meant nothing to the publishers as long as they could buy paper at their own price," he said.

Mr. Phillips said that the practices of publishers during depression years forced many paper companies into bankruptcy and frightened away investors who might have put money into new construction.

"The sorry condition of the industry meant nothing to the publishers as long as they could buy paper at their own price," he said.

He spanked the CIO American Newspaper Guild for criticizing the manufacturers "for not putting more millions into equipment and plants."

He said that newspaper manufacturers are producing at record rates and are making every effort not to lose a minute of production.

"The manufacturers have done a magnificent job," he said, "not only in production but in holding their prices to a fair and just level."

He promised labor leaders that he would place the question of their newsprint supplies before the manufacturers.

"The only way we can help," he said, "is to add our voice to yours and others in trying to persuade the manufacturers to allocate more newsprint to the labor press, though I am by no means certain we can aid you."

Buy U. S. Savings Bonds.

## BILL UNFAIR

Washington.—Legislation introduced by Rep. W. R. Pogue of Texas for importing foreign labor to work in agriculture is unfair to American citizens.

H. L. Mitchell, president AFL National Farm Labor Union, told the House Agriculture Committee that provisions of the bill, H.R. 3048, provide that the government shall assist foreign workers in negotiating contracts with employers and provide guarantees for payment of wages and transportation. Mr. Mitchell stated that this assistance had never been provided for American farm workers.

## UN to Investigate Red Slave Labor

Santiago, Chile.—The United Nations Economic and Social Council voted 14 to 3 to submit allegations by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on slave labor in dictatorships to the United Nations Secretary General and International Labor Organization.

This decision is a direct result of proposals submitted to ECOSOC by the ICFU representative, Miss Toni Sender, in the form of a resolution.

This report, closely connected with quotations from the labor codes of Soviet Russia and the satellite states, establishes the fact that the United Nations is being made an international hand and foot to the state apparatus has also been forced upon nations under attack towards freedom of speech was provided by the Soviet attempt to prevent Miss Sender, the ICFU representative from taking the floor, despite the fact that the United States-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions had already been allowed to speak on the subject.

## Illinois AFL Fights UC Ripper Attempt

By DAN SMYTH  
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—A warning to local AFL unions against a forthcoming attempt to hamstring the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act was sounded by the Illinois Federation of Labor. In Illinois unemployed workers could get the act may obtain \$25 a week in benefits up to 26 weeks to tide them over while looking for another job.

A resolution submitted to the federation by the Painters' District Council, adopted last week, said that the State Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Federation of Retail Merchants Association have announced plans to cripple the act by amendments in the 1951 legislation.

The most dangerous amendments, the resolution said, would:

1. Prohibit payment of benefits to all employees who quit their jobs or are fired for cause.

2. Disqualify any claimant if his former employer offers him a job and he refuses to take it.

3. Disqualify any employee who leaves employment to accompany his husband or wife to another location.

A. Require that the worker should be employed for at least 10 weeks at least \$600 wages in a base period, with wages of at least \$100 in each of 2 consecutive quarters in the base period.

B. Set the maximum benefits to \$35 a week but reduce the ratio of benefits to wages, thus favoring the highest paid workers against the lowest paid.

C. Set up a separate agency to operate the act, instead of the state Department of Labor which now handles it; and provide an elaborate key system to see if a claimant is actively seeking work.

## Rep. O'Neill Member Of AFL Barbers Union

Washington.—Rep. Harry P. O'Neill of the 10th Pennsylvania District is a member of the AFL Barbers Local Union 272, Dunmore, Pa. Vice President William C. Birtchright, president Barbers Union noted that Rep. O'Neill was not included in the list of House of Representatives members who belong to trade unions. Are there others not listed?

## SUP Observes 66th Birthday; Convention Set

New York.—The Seafarers Log, published by the AFL Seafarers International Union, noted the 66th anniversary of the Sailors Union of the Pacific on March 6.

The SIU's 5th annual convention set for San Francisco March 26. On the anniversary, The Log said in an editorial:

Sixty-six years ago—on March 6—a group of aroused seamen gathered at the Polson St. wharf in San Francisco to make plans to block a shipowners' scheme for cutting wages to \$20 a month. They agreed that the only effective way to protect themselves was to form a union.

The \$20 that was raised among the 222 men present was to be used to rent a hall for a meeting the next night, when a constitution and by-laws were unanimously adopted.

Thus was born the organization that was to become the forerunner of the Sailors Union of the Pacific, and later of the Seafarers International Union, which was chartered by the SUP in 1938 under the banner of the American Federation of Labor.

A year after the Coast Seamen's Union was founded, a rival group, the Steamship Men's Protective Association, was organized, and inter-organization disputes complicated matters further.

In 1887, the Coast Seamen's Union elected as its head Andrew F. Fisk, whose name was later destined to become synonymous with seamen's rights for nearly four years.

At that time, the two rival organizations amalgamated, adopting the name of the Sailors Union of the Pacific.

When the SUP issued a charter to the Atlantic and Gulf Coast District, under the banner of the Seafarers International Union, in 1928, it had the groundwork for what has become the most powerful grouping of maritime workers in the nation.

## UNION LABEL CONVENTION

New York.—The 24th annual convention of the Union Label Trades Department of the State of New York will take place in Buffalo, May 10-12.

## APPROVES CO-OP AID

Geneva.—The ILO's Governing Body approved in principle granting state aid to assist in the development of the cooperative movement in Asia.

Support the Red Cross Fund Drive generously!

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## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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## 17 AFL Unions Sign Ontario Hydro Contract

Ottawa, Canada.—An historic master agreement was signed between 17 American Federation of Labor unions and the Ontario Hydro Electric Commission.

The agreement provides for the 44-hour work week and the union shop. It is expected that new power from Niagara will be available by the spring or summer of 1954.

One significant feature of the agreement is that instead of having to deal with 17 individual unions, the Hydro Commission will continue to negotiate with a committee representing the 17 unions, known as the Niagara Development Allied Council AFL.

Wages will be based on those prevailing in the Toronto and Niagara Peninsula areas. Carpenters will be paid \$1.70 per hour, electrical workers, \$1.76, and unskilled laborers, \$1.00. Underground workers will receive a bonus of 10c per hour over the surface rate.

Ontario Labor Minister Daley, speaking in the legislature following the signing of the agreement, said it made the Niagara Falls development the first completely unionized construction project in the history of the Ontario Hydro Commission.

Hydro Commission Chairman Robert Saunders said that by withdrawing their original demand for the 40-hour work week, generally prevailing in the construction industry, the unions had done everything within their power to have the project completed in time.

Both parties faced the fact that without added power from Niagara, the whole province's electrical system would be seriously crippled. Mr. Saunders said, "The speed with which the deal was completed became a matter of national importance."

## Union Show Adds Many New Displays

Washington.—The 1951 AFL Union Industrial Show will feature many new displays during its run, May 18-26, at the Chicago Stadium.

One innovation will be a series of dramatic, moving tableaux of pageant-like, chronologically depicting the formation of the American Federation of Labor and the important part the AFL has played in the nation's industrial achievements of our nation.

The Transportation Department of Labor and other governmental agencies will have exhibits of their services to the public. The Department of Defense is making available extensive displays for both indoor and out-of-door exhibits.

Officials of the AFL Union Label Trades Department, which sponsors the show, aim to make the event not only an outstanding example of labor-management cooperation in our democracy but also a momentous demonstration of our industrial production of the defense of America.